STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, TRADE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

NOTICE OF SUBMISSION OF PROPOSED RULES TO PRESIDING OFFICERS OF EACH HOUSE OF THE LEGISLATURE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to s.227.19(2), Stats., that the State of Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection is submitting a final draft of proposed Clearinghouse Number 98-158 to the presiding officer of each house of the legislature for standing committee review. The proposed rule amends Chapter ATCP 75 relating to license exemptions for retail food establishments located in licensed restaurants.

STATE OF WISCONSIN
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, TRADE
AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

Ben Brancel Secretary

State of Wisconsin

Tommy G. Thompson, Governor



Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

Ben Brancel, Secretary

DATE:

May 12, 1999

TO:

The Honorable Fred Risser

President, Wisconsin State Senate

Rm. 220 South State Capitol Madison, WI

The Honorable Scott Jensen

Speaker, Wisconsin State Assembly

Rm. 211 West State Capitol

FROM:

SUBJECT:

Ben Brancel, Secretary Ben Brancel Proposed Rule Relating to License Exemptions for Retail Food

Establishments Locate in Licensed Restaurants

(Clearing house Rule #98-158)

In accordance with ss.227.19(2) and (3), Stats., the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection hereby transmits the above rule for legislative committee review. We are enclosing 3 copies of the final draft rule, together with the following report. In accordance with ss. 227.19(2), Stats., the department will publish a notice of this referral in the Wisconsin Administrative Register.

Summary

This rule exempts, from DATCP retail food store licensing, a combined restaurantfood store if all the following apply:

- The operator holds a restaurant permit from the Department of Health and Family Services.
- Non-meal food sales at the restaurant-food store comprise less than 50% by dollar volume of all food sales from that location.

Honorable Fred Risser Honorable Scott Jensen May 12, 1999 Page 2

Background

The Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) currently licenses and inspects retail food stores under s. 97.30, Wis. Stats. The Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services (DHFS) currently licenses and inspects restaurants under s. 254.64, Wis. Stats.

Under current rules, a person who operates a food store and restaurant at the same location may be subject to duplicate licensing and inspection by DATCP and DHFS. This rule amends current DATCP rules to eliminate duplicate licensing and inspection, starting with the license year that begins on July 1, 1998. DHFS has adopted a similar rule. Both agencies adopted temporary emergency rules pending adoption of these "permanent" rules.

Under current DATCP rules, a person who operates a restaurant and food store at the same location is exempt from a food store license if (1) the person holds a restaurant permit from DHFS and (2) non-meal food sales at the restaurant-food store comprise no more that 25% by dollar volume of all food sales from that location.

This rule expands the current exemption. Under this rule, the operator of a combined restaurant-food store is exempt from a food store license if (1) the operator holds a restaurant permit from DHFS and (2) non-meal food sales comprise less than 50% of all food sales at the combined location. DHFS has adopted reciprocal rules that will exempt, from restaurant permit requirements, food stores licensed by DATCP whose meal sales comprise less than 50% of all food sales.

Hearing Comments

The Department held one public hearing in Madison on November 11, 1998. One person, Michelle Kussow, representing the Wisconsin Grocers Association, Inc., testified in favor of the rule. One person, Bradley Legreid, representing the Wisconsin Dairy Products Association, registered in favor of the rule. No one appeared or testified in opposition to the rule, and the department received no written comments.

Changes from Hearing Draft

The department made no substantive changes to the final draft rule.

Response to Rules Clearinghouse Comments

The Legislative Council Rules Clearinghouse made minor editorial comments on the hearing draft rule. The department incorporated both comments into the final draft rule.

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Fiscal Estimate

This rule is not expected to have a significant fiscal impact on the department. The department estimates that fewer than 100 businesses will be affected by this rule. At an average license fee of \$100, this would result in a PRO reduction of approximately \$10,000. A fiscal estimate is attached.

Final Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

This rule will have a positive impact on small businesses as defined in s. 227.114(1)(a), Wis. Stats. This rule increases the number of restaurant-food store operations which are exempt from licensing by DATCP as a retail food establishment. The rule effectively eliminates duplication of licensing in retail food stores and restaurants. This action will eliminate unnecessary costs and help small businesses by reducing their license fees and inspection costs. A Final Regulatory Flexibility Analysis is attached.

ORDER OF THE STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, TRADE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION AMENDING RULES

- 1 The state of Wisconsin department of agriculture, trade and consumer protection proposes the
- 2 following rule to amend s. ATCP 75.015(7)(c), relating to the retail food establishment license
- 3 exemption for restaurant permit holders.

Analysis Prepared by the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

Statutory authority:

ss. 93.07(1), 97.30(5) and 227.24, Stats.

Statutes interpreted:

ss. 97.30 and 254.64, Stats

The Wisconsin department of agriculture, trade and consumer protection (DATCP) currently licenses and inspects retail food stores under s. 97.30, Stats. The Wisconsin department of health and family services (DHFS) currently licenses and inspects restaurants under s. 254.64, Stats.

Under current rules, a person who operates a food store and restaurant at the same location may be subject to duplicate licensing and inspection by DATCP and DHFS. This rule amends current DATCP rules to eliminate duplicate licensing and inspection, starting with the license year that begins on July 1, 1998. DHFS is adopting a similar rule. Both agencies have adopted temporary emergency rules pending adoption of these "permanent" rules.

Under current DATCP rules, a person who operates a restaurant and food store at the same location is exempt from a food store license if (1) the person holds a restaurant permit from DHFS and (2) non-meal food sales at the restaurant-food store comprise no more than 25% by dollar volume of all food sales from that location.

This rule expands the current exemption. Under this rule, the operator of a combined restaurant-food store is exempt from a food store license if (1) the operator holds a restaurant permit from DHFS and (2) non-meal food sales comprise less than 50% of all food sales at the combined location. When calculating the amount of food sales, the current rule excludes sales of alcoholic beverages and vitamin supplements. This rule deletes vitamin supplements from the excluded items. DHFS is adopting reciprocal rules that will exempt, from restaurant permit requirements, food stores licensed by DATCP whose meal sales comprise less than 50% of all food sales.

1	SECTION 1. ATCP 75.015(7)(c) is amended to read:						
2	ATCP 75.015(7)(c) A retail food establishment which is operated by the holder of a						
3	restaurant permit issued under s. 50.51 254.64, Stats., if all the following apply:						
4	1. The retail food establishment is operated at the same location as the restaurant for						
5	which a permit is held under s. s. 50.51 254.64, Stats.						
6	2. Non-meal food sales from that location comprise no more than 25% less than 50% by						
7	dollar volume of all meal and non-meal food sales from that location. When calculating food						
8	sales amounts under this subdivision, sales of alcohol beverages and vitamin supplements shall						
9	be excluded.						
10	SECTION 2. EFFECTIVE DATE; APPLICABILITY. (1) Except as provided in						
11	sub. (2), this rule takes effect on the first day of the month following publication in the						
12	Wisconsin administrative register, as provided in s. 227.22(2), Stats.						
13	(2) In a city or county that licenses and inspects retail food establishments on behalf of						
14	the department, pursuant to s. 97.41, Stats., and ch. ATCP 74, Wis. Adm. Code, this rule takes						
15	effect on July 1, 1999.						
	Dated this day of, 1999.						
	STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, TRADE, AND CONSUMER PROTECTION						
	ByBen Brancel, Secretary						

FISCAL ESTIMATE					1997 Sessi	
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C. T. Leitzke, 224-4711		Barbara Kna	ipp (608) 224-4	746	6/26/98	

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Aids to Individuals or	Organizations	-		-
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B. State Costs by Source	of Funds		Increased Costs	Decreased Costs
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Γ. Leitzke, 608/224-4711		Barbara Knapp	(608) 224-4746	6/26/98

Final Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Proposed Amendment of s. ATCP 75.015(7)(c)
Relating to the Retail Food Establishment License Exemption for Restaurant Permit Holders

The amendments to s. ATCP 75.015(7)(c), Wis. Adm Code, will have a fiscal impact on small businesses as defined in s. 227.114(1)(a), Stats. Currently, approximately 7,500 retail food establishments are licensed and inspected by either the department or a local city/county health department that is an agent of the department. Retail food establishments range from small establishments that only sell pre-packaged food to large establishments which process as well as sell a variety of foods.

Over time some retail food establishments have added restaurant type operations and, conversely, some restaurants have added retail food sales operations. Under current rules, a person who operates both a retail food store and a restaurant at the same location may be subject to duplicate licensing by both the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) and the Department of Health and Family Services (DHFS). Local city/county health departments that contract to perform licensing and inspection of retail food establishments as agents of the state may also issue duplicate licenses for establishments which perform both restaurant and retail food sales or processing activities.

This rule exempts holders of restaurant permits from licensing as a retail food establishment if the retail food sales at the same location as the restaurant are less than 50% of the total food sales at the location. This rule effectively eliminates unnecessary duplication of licensing in restaurants with limited retail food sales or processing activities. DHFS is adopting a similar rule which will exempt retail food establishment licensees from obtaining a restaurant permit if meal food sales are less than 50% of the total food sales. These actions will eliminate unnecessary costs and help small business by reducing their license fees and inspection costs.

The proposed rule provides specific accommodations to certain small businesses. Restaurant operators who are exempt from a retail food establishment license will no longer have to pay the retail food establishment license fee or be inspected by the DATCP or its local agent.

The proposed rule does not require any additional recordkeeping for small businesses. The proposed rule does not require any additional professional services to be acquired by small businesses.

Dated this 9th day of December, 1998.

STATE OF WISCONSIN
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
TRADE, AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

Steven B. Steinhoff

Administrator

Division of Food Safety